



Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Scappoose City Hall, 33568 E Columbia Ave., Scappoose, OR 97056

November 18th, 2018 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm

Attendees:

Peter McHugh, Jolene Jonas, J.J. Duehren, Lindsey Goodwick, Dana Pricher, Bryan Hammond, Alyse Lansing, Kristin Person, Cara Heinze, Councilor Joel Haugen, Alex Rains, Doug Nassimbene, Huell White

Absent:

Councilor Megan Greisen, David Powers, Beth Zelfer

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Committee Co-Chair Peter McHugh in David Powers' absence.
 - 1.1 Agenda additions – The agenda was approved as is.
 - 1.2 Meeting minutes from the 10.18 meeting were approved without modification.
 - 1.3 Public comments – None.

2. **City Updates and Discussion**

2.1 Proposal to move 12.20 meeting to 12.13

Motion approved without objection.

2.2 Upcoming Goal Setting session starting on 12.13 and second session on 01.17

City Intern Huell White informed the committee that the annual Goal Setting session for the Committee will start a month earlier than usual, during the 12.13 meeting. Assistant to the City Manager Alex Rains described the process goal setting process and what Committee members should expect. White agreed to send the 2018 goals/objectives developed by the Committee in February, as well as City Council's 2018-2019 Goals and Objectives before the next meeting to remind Committee members about the previous year's goals and objectives.

2.3 Parks Update

Field Services Supervisor Doug Nassimbene provided the parks update for the City. Public Works' park-related work has slowed down for the winter season. General maintenance has been performed at all City parks and the CZ Trail, where blackberry pruning was also conducted. The issue of a cottonwood tree in Creekview Park has been brought up again by a nearby resident; Public Works intends to prune the tree but determined that the tree is healthy and



does not require removal. Heritage fountain was shut down on 11.05 and is scheduled to restart on Earth Day 2019. Holiday lights are up as of 11.15, and lighting will occur on 11.26.

Chief Concomly Park construction is right on schedule. Rains mentioned that staff thought it might be finished by the end of the month, however, that delivery date may be reassessed. Play area is being put off until next summer in the new budget. McHugh asked city staff who gets to decide what the design looks like. Rains replied that we are trying to follow the original design as closely as possible. City staff is waiting until next budget cycle to order equipment. Pricher asked about the possibility for ADA equipment, however, city staff does not believe it is doable for this park. For a park to be fully ADA compliant, not only the equipment, but also the design layout of the play area must meet standards – an element that has not been planned for. For the next play area that gets included into a city park, ADA equipment and design compliance will be a top priority. Basketball hoop has arrived and is ready for installation. Final paving will likely occur in spring, due to less than ideal paving conditions during the winter.

Councilor Haugen raised the issue of the Vista property and believes that the proposed addition of trails would improve the asset for the nearby and city residents. The question of when the Vista property will be open to the public was raised as well. Nassimbene reiterated that Public Works has determined the site needs to dry out before people may be allowed back onto the property. This determination is due largely to erosion concerns that stem from the recent thinning project.

Duehren raised the issue of Chapman Landing. A proposal has been sent to the City, and the City replied to the County with their conditions of a potential transfer to the City of Scappoose. In this initial proposal, Columbia County wanted to give the City five years to develop it, but the City replied that is not nearly enough time to plan, design, and fund development of the site. Councilor Haugen is confident that the Chapman landing transfer deal is getting close to swinging in Scappoose's favor. There will be another CZ Trail Committee meeting in January at Longfellows. Duehren will email Committee members with more detailed information that meeting. No signage on Scappoose Vernonia HWY where the CZ crosses the road is a serious safety concern that the CZ Trail Committee has discussed. Duehren has contacted the Columbia County Sheriff's office about speeding issues with car clubs on the Scappoose-Vernonia HWY as well. There is going to be a flashing light to alert drivers along that route (where CZ Trail crosses the roadway) that there is an upcoming pedestrian crossing. A controlled crossing is also being discussed. The CZ Trail Committee received a \$300,000 grant to address the issue.

Movies in the park was an overwhelming success. Hopefully Friends of Scappoose Parks can get involved with the advertising, volunteering, supporting for the movie series in summer 2019. Pizza bingo at the event was supported by Fultano's – Duehren is hoping to secure a similar partnership for next season's movie series.



Councilor Haugen remarked that public art will need to be part of the Committee's goal setting session, if that is a concept that the City should explore. Councilor Haugen is willing to advocate for the idea amongst City Council. Duehren mentioned that St. Helens has had success with their public art program – a potential model for Scappoose.

2.4 Friends of Scappoose Parks (FSP)

Pricher introduced the FSP update – she is currently the leadership figure for the new organization. Pricher introduced her Park Projects Form, to which Committee members were enthusiastic. Should the form be adopted by the city, it is important that the form is formulaic in nature. White mentioned that city staff is concerned about how a form, such as the one proposed, reflects on the city organization. The city does not have a parks department, and has an incredibly limited parks budget (under current conditions, parks are largely grant driven), therefore hindering the city's capacity to respond to and fund parks and recreation related projects. Continuity is also a concern, especially if a proposing organization is unable to fulfill long-term sustainability aspects of their project in a city park. Pricher believes that FSP could be instrumental in coordinating interested organizations and/or groups. According to Pricher, the form could be a way for people to get prepared to bring an idea before the Committee or City. We could track things and show folks that we are paying attention to their concerns.

Pricher also mentioned the desire to do a "meet your parks" type of event next spring to draw in folks – such as an Earth Day event to attract residents, providing activities for kids and awareness of FSP. Goodwick is going to follow up with the Garden Club that attended the September meeting.

Councilor Haugen expressed his enthusiasm for the Park Projects Form idea. Pricher commented that if Council were to approve something like the form, then FSP could become the point of contact for parks-related ideas from the public. City staff asked about how Public Works staff works into the form equation, as parks maintenance falls under Public Works' purview. Pricher reiterated that the form is intended to direct interested residents to determine what they really need to do to see realization of their ideas. Committee members asked if there is something that the Committee could do to help residents understand the financial context and realities parks and recreation for the City.

Lastly, Duehren elaborated on how partnerships work with different business partners – which has a utility to FSP and/or residents interested in doing something for the community. Duehren remarked that fundraising is a daunting task, but one that an operational FSP could really help facilitate.

Meeting adjourned at 19:02



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Announcements

None

The meeting was adjourned 7:09 pm. The next meeting will be held on December 13th, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the Community Development Center (CDC) conference room.

For questions about these minutes, contact Huell White, 503-543-7184 or hwhite@cityofscappoose.org

This meeting will be conducted in a handicap accessible room. If special accommodations are needed, contact City Recorder Susan Reeves at 503-543-7146, Ext. 224. TTY 503-378-5938